

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **5507**



Introduced by Hon. Jerry P. Treñas

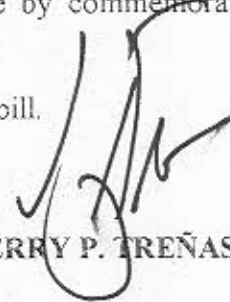
EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to declare the 17th day of March of every year as a special non-working holiday in the Province and City of Iloilo, in honor of our World War II Veterans and to celebrate the Iloilo Veterans Day.

The 6th Military District of the World War II Veterans Association, Inc., the Philippine Association of War Widows, Parents and Orphans (PAWWPO) Pavia Chapter, Inc., and the American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) Post 123-Philippine Region have requested me to sponsor a bill declaring the 17th of March, which is Iloilo Veterans Day in the Province and City of Iloilo, as a special non-working day. While the City and Province of Iloilo commemorate our honored veterans during the said date, the celebrations are usually relatively muted, as the people have to report to work or school whenever the date falls on a weekday. In so being, the Province and City of Iloilo fail to appropriately celebrate the bravery and sacrifice of our veterans.

Our *Ilonggo* World War II freedom fighters fought with courage and dedication in order to free the Islands of Panay, Romblon and Guimaras from the occupation of Imperial Japan. One must pay the price in order to protect the cherished liberties guaranteed by our democratic and republican government. Our World War II veterans paid the price for freedom by risking their lives to rid our archipelago of foreign invaders. They stand as an inspiration to the younger Filipinos and to the current soldiers of our Armed Forces, who have been inspired to defend our nation's sovereignty against all threats, both domestic and foreign. The least that we could do to repay our debt to our veterans is to properly honor their sacrifice by commemorating their victory against the forces of Japan during the Iloilo Veterans Day.

In view of the foregoing, I highly encourage the approval of this bill.


JERRY P. TREÑAS

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15 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress*
16 *assembled:*
17

18 **AN ACT DECLARING MARCH 17 OF EVERY YEAR AS A SPECIAL NON-**
19 **WORKING HOLIDAY IN THE PROVINCE AND CITY OF ILOILO TO CELEBRATE**
20 **THE "ILOILO VETERANS DAY".**
21

22 Section 1. March 17 of every year is hereby declared as a special non-working holiday in
23 the Province and City of Iloilo in order to celebrate the "Iloilo Veterans Day".
24

25 Section 2. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official*
26 *Gazette* or in a national newspaper of general circulation.
27

Approved,